

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7130

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 2680

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IN, YO

SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV INTEREST IN NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH
INDIA

1. THE FOLLOWING REPORT ON YUGOSLAV VICE PREMIER VRATUSA'S
TRIP TO INDIA TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES OF COOPERATION
IN NUCLEAR ENERGY WAS CARRIED FEBRUARY 14 ON THE OFFICIAL
INFORMATION SERVICE OF INDIA WIRE:

QUOTE:

DR. VRATUSA TODL PTI BEFORE LEAVING DELHI ON A
TOUR OF VARIOUS PLACES IN INDIA THAT EXPERTS FROM YUGOSLAVIA
HAD VISITED INDIA AND HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH THEIR INDIAN
COUNTERPARTS IN THIS RESPECT. HE HIMSELF HAD MET DR. SETHAN,
CHAIRMAN OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION IN NEW DELHI. DR.
SETHNA, HE SIAD, WAS LIKELY TO VISIT YUGOSLAVIA TO CONTINUE
THEIR DISCUSSION. DR. VRATUSA WHO DURING HIS VISIT TO
DELHI SIGNED AN AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION ON SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES SAID THAT HE WAS VERY
HAPPY WITH THE OUTCOME OF HIS VISIT. IT HAD FAR EXCEEDED
EVEN HIS MOST OPTIMISTIC EXPECTATIONS. HE SAID THAT HIS
VISIT HAD FURTHER STRENGTHENED COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO
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COUNTRIES IN VARIOUS FIELDS. DR. VRATUSA WAS HIGHLY IMPRESSED

BY THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF INDIA, A NONALIGNED DEVELOPING COUNTRY, IN THE FIELD OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. IN HIS VIEW OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES COULD DRAW UPON THIS EXPERIENCE OF INDIA IN THEIR DEVELOPMENT PROCESS. END QUOTE.

2. COMMENTING ON VRATUSA'S TRIP, A KNOWLEDGEABLE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OFFICIAL TOLD AN EMBASSY OFFICER ON FEBRUARY 25 THAT THERE WAS SOME INTEREST MANIFESTED BY VRATUSA AND OTHER SIMILAR VISITORS IN THE INDIAN PNE. THE SOURCE SAID THAT INDIANS HAD NOT SHOWN THESE VISITORS ANY SENSITIVE INSTALLATIONS, OR GIVEN THEM ANY HELP OR ENCOURAGEMENT IN THE NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE AREA. FURTHERMORE, INDIA WOULD NOT DO SO IN THE FUTURE. THE MEA OFFICIAL SAID IT WAS UNFORTUNATE THAT INDIA COULD NOT MAKE A PUBLIC STATEMENT TO THAT EFFECT, BUT THAT THE INDIAN POLICY WOULD NEVERTHELESS CONTINUE TO DENY EXPLOSIVE TECHNOLOGY TO OTHER PARTIES.

3. WE WOULD WELCOME ANY FURTHER INFORMATION BELGRADE MIGHT HAVE ON VRATUSA'S MISSION.

4. A-76 COVERING OTHER ASPECTS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOWS.
SCHNEIDER

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